

**MAPLE GROVE
ARBOR COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
April 12, 2012
MAPLE GROVE GOVERNMENT CENTER
7:00 PM**

Call to Order The regular meeting of the Arbor Committee was called to order by Chairperson Mary Parenteau at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present John Bender, Marie Digatono, Joseph Hogeboom, Teresa Maas, Mary Parenteau & Terri Polski

Members Absent Michelle Burks, Julie Gamber, Ann Nemitz, Ed Reichow & Matthew Viscasillas

Also Present Staff Representative Frank Kampel, Rachel Benson and Kelly Lindahl, student representatives. Mary Parenteau welcomed the students in attendance at tonight's meeting.

Approval of Agenda and Minutes Mary Parenteau asked if there were any additions or revisions to the agenda. Hearing none, Marie Digatono made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Joseph Hogeboom and passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Mary Parenteau asked if there were any revisions to the March 8, 2012 minutes. Hearing none, Teresa Maas made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 8, 2012 meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Terri Polski and passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Old Business

May 19, 2012 Arbor Day Event Planning Frank Kampel began the discussion by providing a brief summary of the activities confirmed since the last Committee meeting: The Reptile and Amphibian Discovery Zoo and Barb Boulka are confirmed. The wood carvers are not yet confirmed.

Terri Polski will prepare the passbooks for distribution. The Committee discussed the six questions to be included in this year's passbook and agreed to keep questions 1, 2 and 4. Marie Digatono noted that the state tree is called the Red Pine, not the Norway Pine.

Question 3 will be revised accordingly. Question 5 will be revised since it references Harry Potter, which is a dated reference. The Committee recommended replacing it with a question on the state bird the Common Loon. Question 6 will be revised to a question on amphibians that Terri Polski will research. The Committee agreed to use hole-punches to denote correct answers and the passbooks will be handed out and collected for the raffle at the same location by a Committee Member. The raffle prize will be passes to the Community Center.

Marie Digatono recommended the Rockler Woodworking and Hardware store in Ridgedale as a possible source for a display in lieu of the Maple Grove woodworkers, if it becomes necessary.

Frank Kampel confirmed that the Audubon Society would be at this year's event.

Marie Digatono inquired about volunteers for the Smokey the Bear picture-taking task. Frank Kampel stated that he has two likely volunteers.

Terri Polski informed the Committee that she wasn't able to obtain a public announcement (PA) system for the event.

Joseph Hogeboom recommended that each area of the event space should have a board posting the schedule for events/presentations at that area. He volunteered to prepare the boards.

Mary Parenteau stated she may have access to a PA system appropriate for the event. If possible, she will bring it to the next Committee Meeting for review by the Committee.

Joseph Hogeboom noted that in other communities, the Police Department is sometimes able to provide a PA system for municipal events. He also noted that Patch.com is listing this year's event.

The Committee discussed the Maple Grove Arbor Day

Festival flier. Mary Parenteau suggested including the tree planting on the schedule scroll at the center of the flier and that reference to Emerald Ash Borer information available at the event be added to the flier. The Committee also suggested different font colors may make the flyer more legible.

John Bender provided an example for review by the Committee of the rain garden information packets he plans to hand out during the event. Marie Digatono felt the information is valuable but suggested finding publications prepared by Minnesota agencies, rather than by the Wisconsin DNR.

Terri Polski recommended placing signs advertising the event on Vicksburg Lane for both north and southbound traffic.

The Committee assigned Members to the tasks and activities of this year's event. Members not present were tentatively assigned tasks. Frank Kampel will prepare a schedule for final approval at the May Committee Meeting.

New Resident Letter

The Committee discussed the shortened list of recommended native tree species to be included in the new resident letter. The Committee agreed to include a mix of small, medium and large trees both deciduous and coniferous, namely: Serviceberry, American Plum, River Birch, Linden, Red Maple, Swamp White Oak, Eastern Red Cedar & Black Spruce.

The Committee discussed advertising the Arbor event and the Environmental Enhancement Award (EEA). Marie Digatono suggested both be included in the spring community newsletter. She also suggested Committee Members should have EEA application forms for distribution to interested citizens. Frank Kampel will print out copies for the Members.

New Business

Shade Tree Short Course

Frank Kampel began the discussion by informing the Committee of the valuable information he and other City

Staff gained through the course, specifically about invasive species that threaten trees, i.e. Emerald Ash Borer (EAB), the Asian longhorn beetle, the gypsy moth and the sawfly. Trees that are affected can quickly become safety hazards due to falling limbs/trees.

Frank Kampel stated that he believes it is in the City's best interest to begin actively removing declining Ash trees and he suggested the Committee go on record endorsing this type of management. He noted that it is easier to identify declining trees in the current drought situation.

Frank Kampel informed the Committee that the plan to inventory the trees on City property has not been finalized and may involve volunteers.

Mary Parenteau noted that the Department of Public Works would need to be involved in active tree removal.

John Bender inquired if active removal of trees would also involve tree replacement.

Joseph Hogeboom suggested areas of the City be prioritized as to which will be most affected by EAB. He recommended further discussion be placed on the June Committee meeting agenda. The Committee agreed.

Adopt-a-Street

The Committee discussed an appropriate time to conduct the spring clean-up of Vicksburg La. N. and agreed upon May 2nd at 5:30 PM at Basswood Elementary.

Adjournment

Joseph Hogeboom made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 p.m. The motion was seconded by Terri Polski and passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,
John Bender, Secretary
City of Maple Grove Arbor Committee